## **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 11, 15, 16 and 18 have been amended, and claims 1, 2, 5-10, 12-14 and 20-23 have been deleted. Upon entry of this amendment, the pending claims will be claims 3, 4, 11 and 15-19.

Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form.

Claim 4 has been made dependent from claim 3.

Claims 11, 15, 16 and 18 have been made dependent from claim 3 or 4.

On page 9 of the Official Action, it is stated that claims 3-4, 11 and 15-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 3 has been rewritten independent form and claims 4, 11 and 15-19 have been made dependent from claim 3.

Accordingly, claims 3-4, 11 and 15-19 are allowable, the rejections on pages 2-9 of the Official Action have been rendered moot, and these rejections should be withdrawn.

Allowance is requested.

U.S. Patent No. 09/926,561 Attorney's Docket No. 011536

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

Edward F. Kenehan, Jr Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 28,962

Westerman, Hattori, Daniels & Adrian LLP 1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20036-2657

202-822-1100 (tel) 202-822-1111 (fax)